

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, MA

SUBJECT: NATIONALIZATION OF FOREIGN-OWNED BUSINESS FIRMS

1. SUMMARY: GOVERNMENT OF MADAGASCAR NATIONALIZED FIVE BUSINESS FIRMS. END SUMMARY.

2. ON JULY 16, GDRM ANNOUNCED NATIONALIZATION OF THE FOLLOWING FIVE BUSINESS FIRMS: A) S.A. MAXIME DARRIEUX & CIE., ONE OF MADAGASCAR'S LEADING IMPORTERS OF OFFICE MACHINES (REPRESENTATIVE OF BURROUGHS CORP. INTERNATIONAL) AND FURNITURE, CUTLERY, HAND TOOLS AND HARDWARE, REFRIGERATORS & ROOM AIR CONDITIONERS (REPRESENTATIVE OF BORG-WARNER AND CARRIER CORP.) & AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT (REPRESENTATIVE OF INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER); B) SOCIETE INDUSTRIELLE ET COMMERCIALE DE L'EMYRNE (SICE), ONE OF MADAGASCAR'S LEADING IMPORTERS OF AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLES, TIRES AND GENERAL MERCHANDISE, ALSO EXPORTER OF MADAGASCAR'S AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS; C) SOCIETE D'EXPLOITATION DE LA VIANDE DE MADAGASCAR (SEVIMA), A MEAT, FRUIT & VEGETABLE CANNING PLANT; D) SOCIETE TORGINOL-MADAGASCAR, A PAINT PLANT, AND E) SOCIETE D'INDUSTRIE ET DE COMMERCE, A PLANT FOR ASSEMBLING AND RECHARGING FIRE-EXTINGUISHERS.

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3. ALL THESE FIRMS ARE MAJORITY FRENCH-OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY THEIR LEADING SHAREHOLDER, GROUP OF DENIS-FRERES, PARIS. THEY HAD A \$40.7 MILLION VOLUME OF BUSINESS AND 2,500 EMPLOYEES DURING FY 1976. BARRETT

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